

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 FDRE-00 SS-15 SP-02  
NSC-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGRE-00 OMB-01 OPIC-03  
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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8401

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 7423

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAGR, AID, PK  
SUBJECT: FOOD AID TO PAKISTAN

REF: ISLAMABAD 7258

1. THE LETTER QUOTED BELOW FROM SECRETARY FINANCE AND  
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AFTAB AHMAD KHAN, WAS SENT TO THE AMBASSADOR AND  
ACTING USAID MISSION DIRECTOR AND RECEIVED JULY 28.

"AS YOU KNOW THE MEMORANDUM OF PAKISTAN'S WHEAT AID REQUIREMENTS  
FOR 1978-79 WAS PRESENTED TO YOU IN A MEETING WHEREIN THE MEASURES  
TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT LAST YEAR TO BOOST WHEAT PRODUCTION IN THE  
COUNTRY AND THE FACTORS BECAUSE OF WHICH WE COULD NOT REACH THE  
DESIRED TARGET IN WHEAT PRODUCTION WERE EXPLAINED.

" THE FOOD AID MEETING OF THE PAKISTAN CONSORTIUM, INITIALLY  
PROPOSED TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 10, 1978, HAS BEEN POSTPONED PENDING  
PREPARATION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN OF A COMPREHENSIVE STATEMEN  
T  
DISCUSSING THE FACTORS LEADING TO THE FAILURE OF THE RABI CROP IN  
1977-78 AND THE MEASURES CONTEMPLATED BY GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN TO  
ENSURE A MUCH BETTER RABI WHEAT CROP DURING 1978-79. HOWEVER, FOR  
ORDERLY PLANNING OF OUR FUTURE WHEAT IMPORTS AND THE LOGISTICS INVOLVED  
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IN MAINTAINING SUPPLIES IN THE FOLLOWING MONTHS, MY GOVERNMENT WOULD  
  
BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD KINDLY OBTAIN SOME INDICATIONS FROM YOUR  
GOVERNMENT OF THE LEVEL OF FOOD AID THAT COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO  
US INVIEW OF THE GREAT URGENCY OF OUR NEED ON ACCOUNT OF THE  
UNEXPECTED FAILURE OF THE RABI WHEAT CROP OF 1977-78."

2. ACTING DCM KENNON AND ACTING AID DIRECTOR WOLFFER USED LETTER TO OBTAIN URGENT APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY KHAN ON JULY 30 TO DISCUSS REQUEST IN LETTER AND WHAT STEPS GOP PLANNED TO ASSURE BETTER WHEAT PERFORMANCE IN FUTURE. WE TOLD HIM THAT CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION FOR FY 79 INCLUDED A REQUEST FOR 200,000 TONS OF WHEAT UNDER TITLE I OF PL-480. THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY OF UP TO AN ADDITIONAL

300,000 TONS OF WHEAT UNDER TITLE III, BUT GETTING ANY AMOUNT WOULD REQUIRE CARVING IT OUT OF OTHER COUNTRY'S TENTATIVE ALLOCATION. THIS WILL BE A HARD BATTLE AND ANY HOPE FOR SUCCESS WOULD DEPEND ON US RECEIVING EVIDENCE THAT WE COULD USE TO DEMONSTRATE TO WASHINGTON THAT PAKISTAN WAS TAKING CONCRETE STEPS NOT ONLY TO DEAL WITH CURRENT "EMERGENCY" BUT TO REDUCE THE CHANCES OF SUCH AN EMERGENCY IN FUTURE YEARS. SECRETARY KHAN REPLIED THAT SUCH STEPS WERE NOW BEING URGENTLY CONSIDERED AND INCLUDED ANOTHER LOOK AT THE RATION SHOP SYSTEM AND ANOTHER REVIEW OF PRICING POLICY. WE ASKED HIM WHEN WE MIGHT HAVE SOME NEWS OF SUCH STEPS THAT WE COULD REPORT BACK TO WASHINGTON. HE REPLIED THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS AIMING TO HAVE ITS PRODUCTION STRATEGY OUTLINED BY MID-AUGUST TO PRESENT TO THE DONOR COMMUNITY AND HOPED FOR A MEETING BY MID-SEPTEMBER.

3. SECRETARY KHAN ASKED WOLFFER FOR A PAPER SETTING FORTH STEPS PAKISTAN MIGHT TAKE. IT WAS APPARENT FROM THIS THAT SECRETARY KHAN HAD NOT REALLY FOCUSED ON THE DRAFT TITLE III PROPOSAL (ISLAMABAD 7258) LEFT WITH HIM ON JULY 17. WE URGED HIM TO DO SO AND REITERATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT A RANGE OF ACTIONS WERE CONTAINED IN OUR DRAFT TITLE III PROPOSAL,

INCLUDING BETTER PRICE INCENTIVES. WE ADDED THAT NEED FOR ADEQUATE AMOUNTS OF RUST RESISTANT SEED WHICH WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE JULY 17 PAPER. SECRETARY KHAN ASSERTED THAT RUST DAMAGE HAD BEEN THE MAJOR CAUSE FOR THE SHORTFALL THIS YEAR AND WE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN THAT THERE WERE NOT ADEQUATE AMOUNTS OF RUST RESISTANT SEED NOW IN THE

COUNTRY. SECRETARY KHAN SAID WORK WAS BEING DONE ON THIS AND WE REPLIED

THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE A STEADY FLOW OF INFORMATION ON OR AS THE GOVERNMENT WORKS OUT ITS STRATEGY SO WE CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT IT INTENDS TO DO AND HOW. HE NOTED THAT DR. NORMAN BORLAG WOULD ARRIVE SHORTLY TO JOIN WORLD BANK EXPERTS IN RECOMMENDING A COURSE OF ACTION AND ESPECIALLY HOW TO DEAL WITH THE SEED QUESTION.

4. DEP MAY FEEL IT DESIRABLE TO REINFORCE WITH THE PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR THE NEED FOR PAKISTAN TO DEVELOP A STRATEGY SETTING FORTH SPECIFIC STEPS TO DEAL WITH RECURRING WHEAT PROBLEM AND POINTING OUT THAT A DEMONSTRATION OF GOP SERIOUSNESS ABOUT THE INTENTION TO INCREASE OUTPUT WILL BE CRUCIAL IN DETERMINING LEVEL OF FOOD ASSISTANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOOD ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FOOD AID TO PAKISTAN  
**TAGS:** EAGR, EAID, PK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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